GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4704
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2002
HIV POSITIVE CASES IN ARMED FORCES
AMAR ROY PRADHAN

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that thousands of Jawans are HIV positive in Indian Armed Forces;

(b) if so, the number of such Jawans, category-wise;

(c) whether any indepth study has been made to find out reasons;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to motivate the army personnel not to indulge in such activities and to check this evil disease among army personnel?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4704 19.12.2002

Data collected through the AIDS Control Organization, AFMC Pune, the three Service Referral Centres for HIV/AIDS ar Management Information System Organization (Medical and Health) have revealed prevalence of HIV positive cases among jawans in the Indian Armed Forces. However, the number of such cases in the Armed Forces is lower than the national average.

2. Preventive steps taken by the Government to check spread of the disease among the Armed Forces personnel include stepping up of health education activities on prevention and control of HIV/AIDS through audio-visual and other medium.Such activities are undertaken by medical, nursing, para-medical staff and also by Commanders at all levels and religious teachers. A video film highlighting the causes and prevention of HIV/AIDS specifically among the Armed Forces Personnel has been developed and distributed to all Units for exhibition.